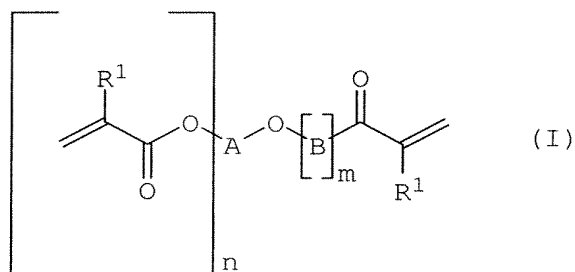


# AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) (Meth)acrylic esters of monoalkoxylated polyols of a general formula (I)



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or methyl,

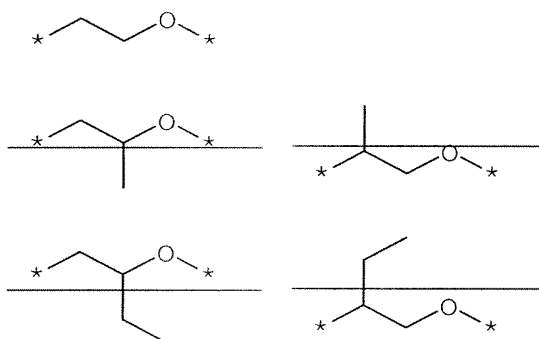
n is an integer from 2 to 5,

m is an integer from 1 to 100,

A is C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> alk(n+1)yl or C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> heteroalk(n+1)yl, and

B represents identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting

of



wherein \* identifies positions of attachment.

2. (Currently amended) (Meth)acrylic esters of monoalkoxylated polyols of claim 1 wherein

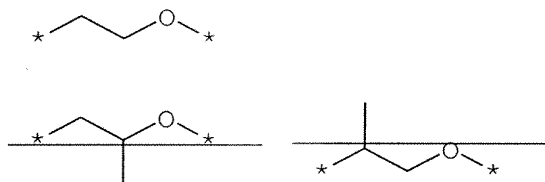
$R^1$  is hydrogen or methyl,

n is 2 or 3,

m is an integer from 2 to 50,

A is  $C_3$  to  $C_{10}$  alk(n+1)yl, and

B represents ~~identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of~~



wherein \* identifies the positions of attachment.

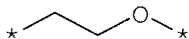
3. (Currently amended) (Meth)acrylic esters of monoalkoxylated polyols of claim 1 wherein

$R^1$  is hydrogen or methyl,

n is 2,

m is an integer from 3 to 30,

A is  $C_3$  to  $C_6$  alk(n+1)yl, and

B is 

wherein \* identifies the positions of attachment.

4. (Previously presented) (Meth)acrylic esters of monoalkoxylated polyols of claim 1 wherein the polyol is glycerol.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) A swellable hydrogel-forming polymer comprising a copolymerized (meth)acrylic ester of general formula (I) according to claim 1 as an internal crosslinker.

7. (Currently amended) A process for preparing crosslinked swellable hydrogel-forming polymers which comprises polymerizing an aqueous mixture comprising a hydrophilic monomer, optionally at least one further monoethylenically unsaturated compound, as at least one (meth)acrylic ester of a monoalkoxylated polyol of general formula (I) of claim 1, at least one free-radical initiator, optionally at least one grafting base, and optionally the hydrogel-forming polymer obtained being postcrosslinked, dried, and brought to a desired particle size.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) A hygiene article comprising a crosslinked swellable hydrogel-forming polymer of claim 6.

10. (Previously presented) (Meth)acrylic esters of monoalkoxylated polyols of claim 2 wherein the polyol is glycerol.

11. (Previously presented) (Meth)acrylic esters of monoalkoxylated polyols of claim 3 wherein the polyol is glycerol.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) A swellable hydrogel-forming polymer comprising a copolymerized (meth)acrylic ester of general formula (I) according to claim 2 as an internal crosslinker.

15. (Previously presented) A swellable hydrogel-forming polymer comprising a copolymerized (meth)acrylic ester of general formula (I) according to claim 3 as an internal crosslinker.

16. (Previously presented) A swellable hydrogel-forming polymer comprising a copolymerized (meth)acrylic ester of general formula (I) according to claim 4 as an internal crosslinker.

17. (Previously presented) A hygiene article comprising a crosslinked swellable hydrogel-forming polymer of claim 14.

18. (Previously presented) A hygiene article comprising a crosslinked swellable hydrogel-forming polymer of claim 15.

19. (Previously presented) A hygiene article comprising a crosslinked swellable hydrogel-forming polymer of claim 16.